

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/661,539

Examiner

Allen T Cao

Applicant(s)

SOGAWA ET AL.

Art Unit

2652

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/15/03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-9.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 12 December 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 9/15/03
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Allen Cao
Primary Examiner

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1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. The application has been amended as follows: The term "interposedbetween" in claim 2 has been changed to --interposed between--.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

a) The prior art of record neither discloses nor suggests an optical pickup having combination limitations of a synthetic resin-made base in which a collimator lens and an objective lens are disposed at one end opening of a light passage hole with a half mirror, the base having a mounting surface formed on another end opening of the light passage hole that is penetrating the base; a laser diode disposed in a laser hole communicating with the light passage hole; a resilient plate made of a leaf spring having a central through hole, a first end portion secured to the mounting surface in such a manner as to be height-wise adjustable by an adjusting screw, a pair of left and right hinge portions formed by cutting out a slit in the vicinity of a second end portion that is opposite to the first end portion, and a pair of left and right leg portions formed integrally at both side edge portions of the second end portion, the leg portions extending toward the first end portion along a horizontal longitudinal direction; and a printed circuit board with a photodiode, the printed circuit board secured to the resilient plate in face-to-face relation to the central through hole while being positioned in the horizontal longitudinal direction and a horizontal transverse direction; wherein laser light is projected from the

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laser diode onto a disk through the half mirror, the collimator lens, and the objective lens; and reflected light thereof is received by the photodiode through the half mirror and the central through hole the resilient the disk; plate, so as to read information recorded on a pair of fixing holes portions in such a manner as phantom line passing through a central portion of the resilient plate and at positions spaced apart an equal interval from a longitudinal phantom line passing through the central portion of the resilient plate and extending in the horizontal longitudinal direction; are respectively formed in the leg to be provided on a transverse a pair of threaded holes are formed in the mounting surface in such a manner as to be provided on a transverse phantom line passing through a central portion of the base and extending in the horizontal transverse direction and at positions spaced apart an equal interval from a longitudinal phantom line passing through the central portion of the base and extending in the horizontal longitudinal direction; an elongated engaging hole is penetratingly provided in one the leg portions along the horizontal longitudinal direction; an elliptical positioning projection is projecting provided on the mounting surface in face-to-face relation to the engaging hole; a support pedestal which is one step higher is integrally formed at an end portion of the mounting surface; the resilient plate and the leg portions are positioned on the mounting surface by engaging the positioning projection with the engaging hole; and fixing screws are respectively screwed into the threaded holes through the fixing holes in the leg portions, so as to fix the leg portions to the mounting surface and press the second end portion of the resilient plate against the support pedestal, all as set forth in claim 1

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b) The prior art of record neither discloses nor suggests an optical pickup having combination limitations of a synthetic resin-made base having a mounting surface formed thereon; a resilient plate made of a leaf spring having a central through hole and a first end portion secured to the mounting surface in such a manner as to be height-wise adjustable by an adjusting screw; a printed circuit board with a photodiode, the printed circuit board secured to the resilient plate in face-to-face relation to the central through hole while being positioned in a horizontal longitudinal direction and a horizontal transverse direction; and a laser diode; wherein laser light is projected from the laser diode onto a disk, and reflected light thereof is received by the photodiode, so as to read information recorded on the disk; a pair of fixing holes are formed in the resilient plate in such a manner as to be provided at positions spaced apart an equal interval from the central through hole interposed between the fixing holes; a pair of threaded holes are formed in the mounting surface in face-to-face relation the fixing holes; and fixing screws are respectively screwed into the threaded holes through the fixing holes in the leg portions, so as to fix the resilient plate to the mounting surface, all as recited in claim 2.

c) The present application (10/661,539) is not double patenting to US 2004/0114496 A1 (10/657,129) and US 2003/0035358 A1 (10/212,116) because their claims are different.

d) The present application (10/661,539) and US application (10/657,129) are commonly owned by the same inventors and assignee.

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4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Allen T Cao whose telephone number is (571) 272-7569. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thurs (7:30 - 6:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoa T Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-7579. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Allen Cao
Primary Examiner

AC
March 15, 2005